## REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment eliminates the multiple dependent claim status of claims 7 and 8 and amends claim 1. New claims 9-18 are added to recapture the subject matter in amended claims 7 and 8.

Early and favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 25, 2006

James E. Ledbetter

Registration No. 28,732

JEL/spp

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. <u>L7016.06103</u>

STEVENS, DAVIS, MILLER & MOSHER, L.L.P.

Suite 850

1615 L Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20036

Telephone: (202) 785-0100

Facsimile: (202) 408-5200